

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 08152 120821Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /027 W

----- 104874

R 120710Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1193

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 8152

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: FUNERAL OBSERVANCES FOR CHU TEH

REF: PEKING 1253

1. PRESUMABLY TAKING ITS CUE FROM PEKING (REFTEL), HONG KONG OBSERVED THE PASSING OF CHU TEH IN A DIGNIFIED BUT RELATIVELY PRO FORMA MANNER. LONG LINES CUED AT THE BANK OF CHINA JULY 11 TO PAY FINAL RESPECTS TO THE OLD MARSHAL'S PORTRAIT AND THE BANK WAS SURROUNDED BY WREATHS, BUT NEITHER THE CROWDS NOR THE NUMBER OF WREATHS COMPARED WITH THE OUTPOURING FOR CHOU EN-LAI. WHILE THE OCCASION WAS SOMBRE, THERE APPEARED TO BE NO SPONTANEOUS EXPRESSIONS OF GRIEF.

2. THE CONSUL GENERAL, ACCOMPANIED BY CHINA REPORTING SECTION CHIEF AND DEFENSE LIAISON OFFICER, CALLED AT THE BANK OF CHINA ALONG WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONSULAR CORPS TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES AND SIGN THE BOOK. U.S. PRESENCE AT THE FUNCTION WAS COVERED ON EVENING TELEVISION NEWS JULY 11, AND PHOTOS OF CONGEN OFFICIALS APPEARED IN BOTH COMMUNIST CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 08152 120821Z

NEWSPAPERS ALONG WITH THOSE OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CORPS.

3. ON THE DAY FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHU'S DEATH, CONSUL GENERAL SENT BRIEF LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE TO NCNA DIRECTOR LIANG WEI-LIN AND TA KUNG PAO PUBLISHER FEI I-MIN. FEI CALLED PERSONNALLY TO EXPRESS HIS GRATITUDE FOR THE LETTER AND SAID THAT IT WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS IN PEKING. (COPIES OF LETTERS POUCHED EA/PRCM.)

4. COMMENT: WE CONCUR WITH USLO'S OBSERVATION THAT THE CHINESE APPEARED TO APPROACH CEREMONIES MARKING CHU TEH'S PASSING AS SOMETHING OF A DRESS REHEARSAL FOR THE IMPENDING DEATH OF THE CHAIRMAN. BY NOW NOT ONLY THE LOCAL PRC AUTHORITIES BUT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AS WELL SEEM TO HAVE THE DRILL WELL IN HAND.  
CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEATHS, POLITICAL LEADERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976HONGK08152  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760267-0717  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760769/aaaacikd.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 PEKING 1253  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FUNERAL OBSERVANCES FOR CHU TEH  
**TAGS:** PINT, CDES, CH, (CHU TEH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006